



***FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH THE
WORKER***

May 1, 2022

Introduction:
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He was just
a humble carpenter –
the simplest of men,
who struggled
with his faith
and doubts
time and time again...

But he knew he'd heard his calling
within an angel's voice,
and when he saw the trust
in Mary's eyes,
he made his choice...

So, may his life remind you
faith and grace are ours to share,
and whatever God may ask of you,
He'll keep you in His care.

Hymn: Joseph Be our Guide and Pattern

456 CBWIII Verses 1 & 2

Joseph, be our guide and pattern,
Faithful to your sacred trust,
Strong protector of the Virgin
And the infant, Jesus Christ.
Joseph, firm and faithful, guide us,
Joseph, walk the way with us.

Faithful to the guiding vision,
List'ning to the angel's word;
Shielding Mary from all slander,
Guarding Christ, both Son and Lord,
Joseph, true and trusting, guide us,
Joseph, walk the way with us.

Prayer: Not much is known of Joseph. He was husband, father, provider...everyday. He had dreams. They weren't always clear and easy, but they were his. Eventually they changed his mind and heart. He lived out his dreams. He was a just man; someone you could count on. Displaced, a common worker, no name but carpenter this Joseph. Yet one wonders how each person, each place was neighbor to him; for the child he called Son treated none as a stranger. Perhaps the mark of greatness is not the accomplishing of great moments, great movements, great works. Perhaps the mark of greatness is facing life as it comes, being content with the daily, what we call ordinary. Joseph was that kind of man, a man with a common touch, a saint. Quiet, living on the verge of mystery, he was left with dreams and the work of his hands.

St. Joseph, pray for us

Madeleva Williams, CSJ, Orange CA

Reflection

Janice Brewi, CSJ

Faithful in fathering Jesus: in his infancy, in his youth, in all the stages of his development.

Joseph who modeled manhood for God made man,

Faithful to the angels' guidance:

"Take . . ." "Get up . . ." "Go . . ."

And he obeyed.

Living the mystery,

cherishing the woman and the boy/man.

Joseph, give me a listening heart.

Teach me to listen to God in my life, in my dreams.

Make me faithful to my calling as you were to yours.

Teach me to live the mystery.

Be with me in my living and my dying.

Joseph, patron of a happy death,

Welcome me, as you did Mary, into eternal life.

Intercessions:

Joseph, our model of faith, pray for us:

that strength and courage may increase in all who work to enlighten the world;

Joseph, our model of hope, pray for us:

that imitating your strength we will be bearers of hope and justice among our brothers and sisters;

Joseph, our model of charity, pray for us:

that we will understand how our lives are enriched with love of God and neighbour;

Joseph, our model of spiritual purity, pray for us:

that we may imitate your faithfulness in our commitments;

Joseph, model of obedience, pray for us:

that we may learn to share our gifts with joy;

Joseph, model of the dying, prayer for us:

that we may be peacefully delivered to the Father.

Joseph, model of workers, pray for us:

to do all with love, justice and honesty;

Joseph, model of parental support, pray for us, our families and friends and for the children of the world;

Joseph, model of those who pray, pray for us:

that we may learn to pray with wisdom and love.

Closing Prayer:

Gracious God on this Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, help us to walk in gratitude and appreciation so that we may be generous in sharing the gifts we have freely received. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Risen One, through the power of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.